(b) The scheme is basically applicable to Scientists and Technologists of Scientific Departments/Organisations engaged in Scientific research-both basic and applied.

(c) On completion of the prescribed residency period in a grade, the Scientists/ Technologists are assessed for promotion by a duly constituted Selection Board on the basis of proven merit, research work done and other allied factors. The scheme helps in quicker promotions because promotions are not vacancy based.

Import of Quality Products As Scrap

5328. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the item captioned 'Bid for IT recovery from fictitious scrap dealers' appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated August 1, 1991 wherein it has been stated that steel worth crores of rupees has been imported into the country in the form of scrap etc;

(b) if so, the number of cases which have come to the notice during the last one year where big firms imported quality products in the form of scraps and deprived the Government of legitimate revenues;

(c) whether any instances have come to the notice of the Government wherein concerned officials were found involved in such rackets;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to completely plug the loopholes which help in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Unresolved Points In Uruguay Round of Trade and Tariff Negotiations

5329. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main points of difference between the developed and the developing countries that have remained unresolved during the Uruguay Round of trade and tariff negotiations;

(b) the stand of the two sides on each point; and

(c) the efforts made by the Group of 77 to bridge the differences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). As the Uruguay Round has not yet been concluded, most of the important issues under negotiation still remain open and unresolved. In multilateral trade negotiations, each country pursues its own economic interests and differences of views on the issues being negotiated do not always follow the North-South divide. Some coalitions do develop among countries seeking enhancement of market access in the same group of products, viz. agricultural products, tropical products, natural resource-based products, and textiles and clothing. The Group of 77, which operates in the UN fora, does not have any status in the Gatt. Although there is an informal group of developing countries in GATT which sometimes makes joint statements, smaller groups of developing countries have divergent negotiating objectives and attach varying degrees of importance to negotiations in different areas. In agriculture, while the major participants are divided on the extent of reforms,

there are groups of developing countries with very divergent points of view. Their attitudes also vary on whether and to what extent changes in policies on investment and intellectual property rights can be bargained for improvement in market access for goods.

The main points on which there have been differences between substantial numbers of developed and developing countries are as follows:

(i) TEXTILES: The developing countries demand that the discriminatory and restrictive regime for trade in textiles contained in the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) must be phased out if necessary after a transitional period providing inter-alia for rapid growth of quotas. The developed countries would like the phase-out of the MFA to be very slow and to be accompanied by trade liberalisation measures by developing countries as well and by strengthening of GATT rules.

(ii) TRIPs: The developed countries are seeking uniform standards for the protection of intellectual property rights at a very high level in respect of countries. The developing countries maintain that norms and standards should reflect the stage of development and the same level of obligation should not be made applicable to all countries.

(iii) GATT Rules: The developed countries want to curtail the flexibility presently available to developing countries to take recourse to quantitative restrictions to safeguard their balance of payments position and to grant subsidies to promote exports of manufactures. The developing countries want to retain the present flexibility in the rules.

(iv) TRIMs: The developed countries wish to prohibit the use of such governmental investment measures as local content requirements, export performance requirements, trade balancing requirements, etc. The developing countries wish to retain the right to use such investment measures as appropriate.

Export of Hand-knitted Woollen Carpets

5330. DR. G. L. KANAUJIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand knitted woollen carpets during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a great potential for the export of these carpets; and

(c) if so, the target fixed for 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The export figures for hand knitted woollen carpets are not available separately, however the amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of hand knitted woollen carpets, woollen druggets, Durries, Rugs, Namdhas and other floor coverings during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Value of export (Rs. in crores)
1988-89	273.27 (Provisional)
1989-90	360.55 (Provisional)
1990-91	425.79 (Provisional)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The target fixed for the export of hand-knotted woollen/silken/staple carpets and other floor covering during 1991-92 is of the value of Rs. 720.00 crores. Out of this woollen floor covering of the value of Rs. 620.00 crores are expected to be exported.